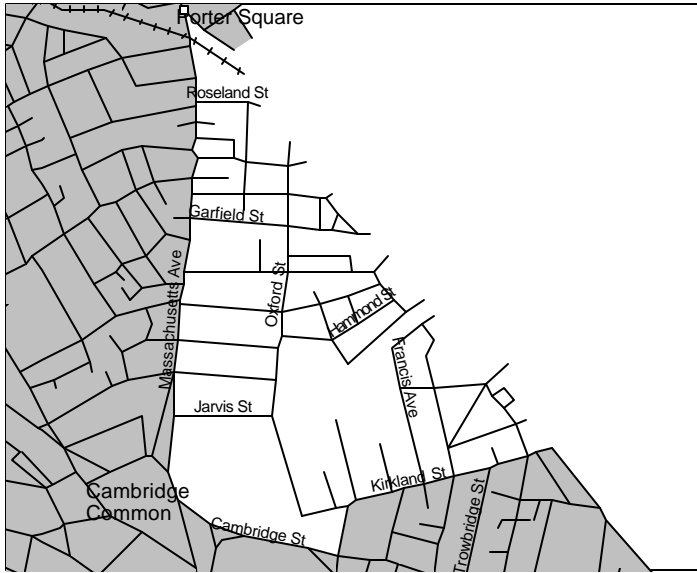
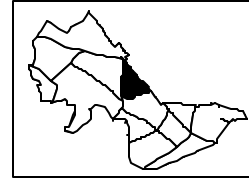


# NEIGHBORHOOD 8

## AGASSIZ



**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge Street, Quincy Street, Kirkland Street, and the Somerville border

**POPULATION:** 5,241 residents  
1,891 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$36,853

Neighborhood #8 is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 5 (2 officers) and Car 9R (1 officer). It is also covered by walking routes 8A, 8B, and 8C.

### COMPARISON OF 2<sup>ND</sup> Q. TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 - 2003

CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	9	8	2	30	5
Street Robbery	0	0	1	1	2
Auto Theft	4	6	9	11	8
Larceny from MVs	17	12	18	18	14
Malicious Destruction	15	11	11	14	5
Drug Arrests	1	0	0	1	1

### 2003 SECOND QUARTER IN REVIEW

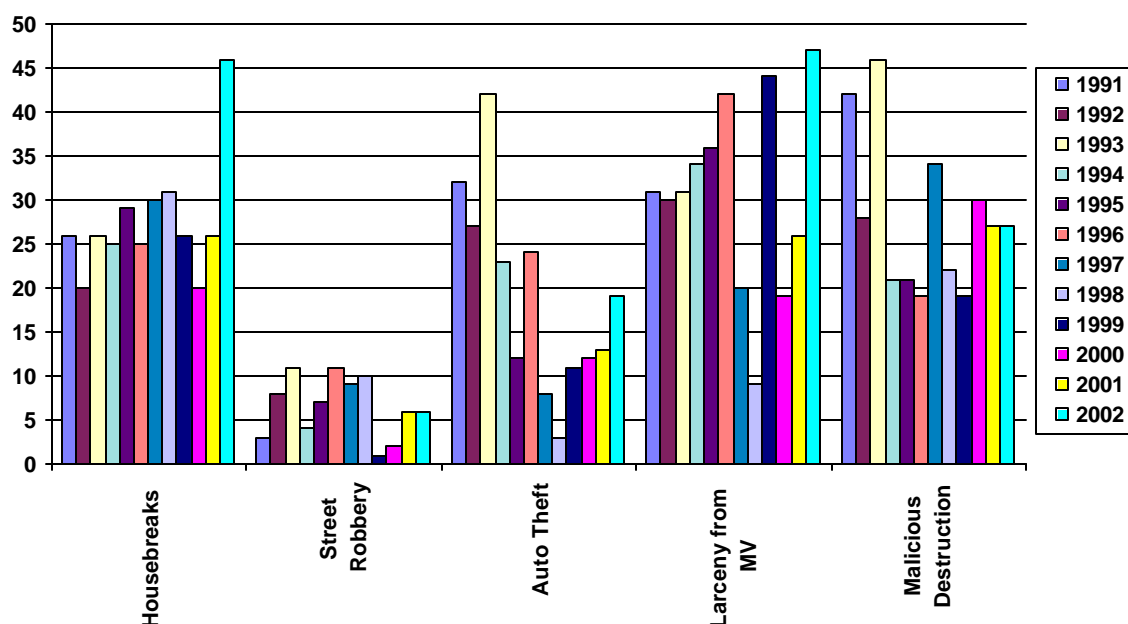
One of the more dramatic target crime declines that the City experienced over the first two quarters of 2003 occurred in the Agassiz neighborhood. Agassiz recorded its highest **housebreak** total in five years in 2002. The forty-six housebreaks in this neighborhood last year translated into a 77% increase from 2001. Housebreaks have plummeted in Neighborhood #8. There were 25 fewer housebreaks in Agassiz over the first six months of 2003 when compared with the same time period last year. The majority of this decrease can be attributed to the arrest last summer of a pair of prolific burgling brothers from Somerville. Three of the five housebreaks in this area in 2003 have been on Oxford Street. These incidents were unrelated and occurred months apart. There have been two **street robberies** recorded in Neighborhood #8 in 2003. At 3AM on a Saturday night in April, a male victim was strong armed into giving up his wallet by two suspects on Kirkland Street. A female became the target of a purse snatcher in the middle of a May afternoon on Museum Street. Agassiz has averaged five street robberies annually since 1997. The only **aggravated assault** in this neighborhood in 2003 involved an altercation between two intoxicated males in February on the outskirts of Cambridge Common. Harvard Police arrested three subjects smoking marijuana in a car on Oxford Street in May, this being the only **drug** related incident in this neighborhood so far in 2003. **Auto Theft** decreased by three incidents when compared with the same time period of 2002. Four of the eight thefts were of Acura Legends that were recovered in Boston within 48 hours. **Malicious destruction** declined significantly from 14 incidents in 2002 to five sporadic and unrelated incidents in 2003. All five of malicious destructions during the first two quarters of 2003 were acts of vandalism to motor vehicle windshields and antennas.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Over half of the Agassiz neighborhood is occupied by Harvard University and Lesley College. The rest of the residential population is concentrated primarily in a triangle in the northern section of the neighborhood, capped by bustling Porter Square. A number of businesses line Massachusetts Avenue on Agassiz's west border.

*Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the southern part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.*

- Agassiz has a significantly lower than average rate for almost every measured crime. Unlike some other neighborhoods, only one of its borders is defined by a major, heavily trafficked avenue. Only four other neighborhoods have lower average **housebreak** and **larceny from motor vehicle** totals; only three other neighborhoods have lower average totals for **street robberies**, and Agassiz ranks as the third lowest neighborhood for **auto theft** and **malicious destruction**.
- Juveniles entering the neighborhood from Somerville were suspected in a pattern of **street robberies** in 1996 and 1997; such patterns arise every few years, usually clustered at the intersections of Massachusetts Avenue and Wendell Street or Oxford Avenue and Sacramento Street. These occasional patterns generally occur in the late night on weekends.
- Somerville juveniles have also been associated with occasional tire slashings on Forest Street and Massachusetts Avenue. The **malicious destruction** statistics reflect incidents of spray-painting at the Agassiz School.



ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR AGASSIZ AREA TARGET CRIMES					
Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2002*
Housebreaks	67	8	25	10	6
Street Robbery	11	9	6	10	10
Auto Theft	45	12	20	10	9
Larceny from MVs	47	11	30	11	9
Malicious Destruction	45	11	29	10	11

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest